

Remarks:

1. Pending claims 1 through 20 stand rejected in the Office Action under a nonstatutory double patenting rejection in view of parent application 09/459,213, now U.S. patent no. 6,593,279. The Examiner pointed out in the Office Action that this rejection could be cured with an appropriate terminal disclaimer.


2. Applicants filed such a terminal disclaimer with the papers that were originally filed with the instant application (10/612,426). Unfortunately it appears that office placed this terminal disclaimer in the file of the parent (09/459,213). The Examiner noted in telephone conversation with the undersigned on February 2, 2005 that this earlier-filed terminal disclaimer has now been located.

3. In view of the availability of this earlier-filed terminal disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1 through 20 are now allowable.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that that this application in now in full condition for allowance, which action Applicants earnestly solicit. Should the Examiner have any questions, or believe that a telephone interview may expedite the further examination of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

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